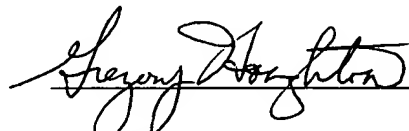


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Gregory Houghton

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| In re the Application of |) | Examiner: F. Palo |
| |) | |
| Shih-Pan-Yu Hsieh |) | Group Unit: 3644 |
| |) | |
| Serial No.: 09/885,140 |) | |
| |) | |
| Filed: June 20, 2001 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: SEED SOWING METHOD AND |) | |
| MATERIALS |) | |

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

This Reply is submitted pursuant to the Office Action mailed November 24, 2003, to which a Reply is due February 24, 2004. Reconsideration of the present rejections and withdrawal of the present rejections are respectfully requested. Claims 1-15 are under consideration.